

ordering a defendant to appear in court. b. The total quantity of writs or summonses issued in a particular proceeding. c. The whole course of a judicial proceeding. 6. *Biol.* A part extending or projecting from an organ or organism: APPENDAGE. 7. A photomechanical or photoengraving method: — vt. -essed, -ess-ing, -ess-es. 1. To put through the steps of a prescribed procedure. 2. To prepare, treat, or convert by subjecting to a special process. 3. *Law.* To serve with a summons or writ. 4. To institute legal proceedings against: PROSECUTE. 5. *Computer Sci.* To perform operations on data. — adj. 1. Prepared or converted by a special treatment <process cheese> 2. Made by or used in photomechanical or photoengraving methods <a process print>

process² (prə-sēs') vi. -cessed, -cess-ing, -cess-es. [Back-formation < PROCESSION.] To move in or as if in a procession.

proces-sion (prə-sesh'ən) n. [ME < OFr. < Lat. processio, advance < procedere, to advance. — see PROCEED.] 1. An act of proceeding, moving along, or issuing forth. 2. a. A group moving along in an orderly and formal way, usu. in a long line. b. The movement of such a group. 3. A continuous and orderly course <the procession of the months> — vi. -sioned, -sion-ing, -sions. To form or go in a procession.

proces-sion-al (prə-sesh'ə-nəl) adj. Of, relating to, or fitting for a procession. — n. 1. A book containing the ritual observed during a religious procession. 2. A hymn sung at the beginning of a church service. 3. Music meant to be played or sung during a procession. — **proces-sion-al-ly** adv.

proces-sor (prəs'əs'ər) n. 1. One that processes. 2. A computer. 3. *Computer Sci.* a. A central processing unit. b. A program that translates another program into a form acceptable to the computer being used.

process printing n. Printing from multiple, usu. four, halftone images, each inked with a different color such that the composite impression will reproduce the colors of the original.

pro-cès-ver-bal (prə-sə'vēr-bāl') n., pl. -ver-baux (-vēr-bō') [Fr. *procès*, proceedings + *verbal*, oral.] 1. An official record of diplomatic negotiations. 2. A detailed official record of legal proceedings.

pro-choice (prə-chois') adj. Favoring or supporting a person's legal right to choose whether or not to continue a pregnancy to term.

pro-claim (prō-klaīm', prə-) vt. -claimed, -claim-ing, -claims. [ME *proclaymen* < OFr. *proclamer* < Lat. *proclamare*: *pro-*, forward + *clamare*, to cry out.] 1. To announce officially and publicly: DECLARE. 2. To indicate unmistakably. 3. To praise: extol. — **pro-claim'er** n.

pro-cla-ma-tion (prō'klā-mā'shan) n. 1. An act of proclaiming. 2. Something proclaimed, esp. an official public announcement.

pro-clit-ic (prō-kli't'ik) adj. [NLat. *procliticus* < Gk. *proklīnein*; to lean forward: *pro-*, forward + *klinein*, to lean.] Forming an accentual unit with the following word and thus having no independent accent. — **pro-clit'ic** n.

pro-cliv-i-ty (prō-kli'v'i-tē) n., pl. -ties. [Lat. *proclivitas* < *proclivus*, inclined: *pro-*, forward + *clivus*, slope.] A natural propensity: PREDISPOSITION.

Proc-ne (prōk'nē) n. [Lat. < Gk. *Proknē*.] Gk. Myth. The sister of Philomela and betrayed wife of Tereus who was changed into a swallow before Tereus could kill her.

pro-con-sul (prō-kōn'səl) n. [ME < Lat. < *pro consule*, for the consul.] 1. A Roman provincial governor of consular rank. 2. A high administrator in a modern colony, dependency, or other occupied area, and having wide-ranging powers. — **pro-con'su-lar** (-sə-lər) adj. — **pro-con'su-late** (-sə-lit) n. — **pro-con'sul-ship** n.

pro-cras-ti-nate (prō-krās'tā-nāt', prə-) v. -nat-ed, -nat-ing, -nates. [Lat. *procrastinare*, *procrastināt-*: *pro-*, forward + *cras*, tomorrow.] — vi. To put off doing something until a later date. — vt. To delay. — **pro-cras'ti-na-tion** n. — **pro-cras'ti-na-tor** n.

pro-cre-ate (prō'krē-āt') v. -at-ed, -at-ing, -ates. [Lat. *procreare*, *procreat-*: *pro-*, forward + *creare*, to create.] — vt. 1. To beget (offspring). 2. To produce or create: ORIGINATE. — vi. To beget offspring. — **pro'cre-ant** (-ant) adj. — **pro'cre-a-tion** n. — **pro'cre-a-tor** n.

pro-cre-a-tive (prō'krē-ā'tiv) adj. 1. Capable of reproducing: GENERATIVE. 2. Of or directed to procreation <procreative impulse>

pro-crus-te-an also **Pro-crus-te-an** (prō-krūs'tē-ən) adj. [After *Procrustes*, a mythical Greek giant who stretched or shortened captives to make them fit his beds < *prokrouein*, to stretch out: *pro-*, forth + *krouein*, to beat.] 1. Producing or intended to produce conformity by arbitrary or ruthless methods. 2. Having or exhibiting ruthless disregard for individual differences or special circumstances <procrustean legislative enactments>

procrustean bed also **Procrustean bed** n. An arbitrary standard to which precise conformity is forced.

pro-cryp-tic (prō-krīp'tik) adj. [Prob. *PRO(TECT)* + *CRYPTIC*.] *Biol.* Having a pattern or coloration adapted for natural camouflage.

proc-ti-tis (prōk'ti'tis) n. [Gk. *prōktos*, anus + *-itis*.] Inflammation of the anus or rectum.

proc-tol-o-gy (prōk'tōl'ə-jē) n. [Gk. *prōktos*, anus + *-LOGY*.] Physiology and pathology of the rectal area. — **proc'to-log'ic** (-tə-lōj'ik), **proc'to-log'i-cal** adj. — **proc'to-log'i-cal-ly** adv. — **proc-tol'o-gist** n.

proc-tor (prōk'tər) n. [ME, university officer < *procurator*, procur-

rator.] A dormitory and examination supervisor in a school. — vt. -tored, -tor-ing, -tors. To supervise (an examination). — **proc-to'ri-al** (-tōr'ē-əl, -tōr'-) adj. — **proc'tor-ship** n.

proc-to-scope (prōk'tə-skōp') n. [Gk. *prōktos*, anus + *-SCOPE*.] An instrument for dilating and examining the rectum. — **proc'to-scop'ic** (-skōp'ik) adj. — **proc-tos'co-py** (-tōs'kə-pē) n.

pro-cum-bent (prō-kūm'bənt) adj. [Lat. *procumbens*, *procumbent-*, part. of *procumbere*, to bend down: *pro-*, forward + *cumbere*, to lie down.] 1. Bot. Trailing on the ground <a procumbent vine> 2. Lying face down: PRONE.

proc-u-ra-tor (prōk'yā-rā'tər) n. [ME *procurator* < OFr. < Lat. *procurator* < *procurare*, to take care of: — see PROCURE.] 1. An agent with power of attorney. 2. A Roman official acting as a financial agent of the emperor or as an administrator of a minor province. — **proc'u-ra-to'ri-al** (-yā-rā-tōr'ē-əl, -tōr'-) adj.

pro-cure (prō-kyūr', prə-) v. -cured, -cur-ing, -cures. [ME *pro-curen* < OFr. *procurer* < Lat. *procurare*, to manage: *pro-*, for + *curare*, to care for.] — vt. 1. To obtain: acquire. 2. To bring about: EFFECT <procure a settlement of a strike> 3. To obtain for another (a person) for sexual intercourse. — vi. To work as a procurer. — **pro-cur'a-ble** adj. — **pro-cur'ance**, **pro-cure'ment** n.

pro-cur-er (prō-kyūr'ər, prə-) n. 1. One who procures <a procurer of new executive talent> 2. PANDER 1.

pro-cur-ess (prō-kyūr'is, prə-) n. A woman who procures.

Pro-cu-on (prō'sē-ōn') n. [Lat. < Gk. *Prokuon*: *pro-*, before + *kuon*, dog.] A double star in the constellation Canis Minor.

prod (prɒd) vt. **prod-ded**, **prod-ding**, **prods**. [Orig. unknown.] 1. To poke or jab, as with a pointed instrument. 2. To rouse to action: GOAD. — n. 1. Something for prodding: GOAD. 2. An incitement: stimulus. — **prod'der** n.

prod-i-gal (prɒd'ɪ-gəl) adj. [Lat. *prodigus* < *prodigere*, to squander: *prod-*, before (var. of *pro-*) + *agere*, to drive.] 1. Recklessly wasteful: EXTRAVAGANT. 2. a. Profuse in giving. b. Exceedingly abundant. 3. Profuse: lavish <prodigal praise> — n. One inclined to luxury or extravagance. — **prod'i-gal-ly** adv.

prod-i-gal-i-ty (prɒd'ɪ-gəl'i-tē) n., pl. -ties. 1. Extravagant wastefulness. 2. Profuse generosity. 3. Extreme abundance.

pro-di-gious (prə-dij'əs) adj. [Lat. *prodigious* < *prodigium*, omen.] 1. Awesomely great in size, force, or extent: ENORMOUS. 2. Extraordinary: marvelous. 3. Ominous: portentous. — **pro-di-gious-ly** adv. — **pro-di-gious-ness** n.

prod-i-gy (prɒd'ɪ-jē) n., pl. -gies. [Lat. *prodigium*, omen.] 1. One with remarkable talents or powers <a child prodigy> 2. An act or event so remarkable or rare as to inspire wonder. 3. An omen.

pro-drome (prɒ'drɒm') n., pl. -dromes or -dromo-ta (-drɒ'mə-tə) [Fr. < Gk. *prodromos*, precursor: *pro-*, forward + *dromos*, running.] A symptom of the onset of a disease. — **pro-dro'mal** (-drɒ'məl), **pro-drom'ic** (-drɒm'ik) adj.

pro-duce (prə-dōs', -dyōs', prə-) v. -duced, -duc-ing, -duces. [Lat. *producere*: *pro-*, forward + *ducere*, to lead.] — vt. 1. To bring forth: YIELD. 2. To create by physical or mental effort. 3. To manufacture. 4. To give rise to: 5. To bring forward: EXHIBIT. 6. To sponsor and present to the public <produce a musical revue> 7. To extend (an area or volume) or lengthen (a line). — vi. To make or yield the customary product or products. — n. (prɒd'ōs, prɒdōs). A product, esp. farm products as a whole. — **pro-duc'i-ble** adj.

pro-duc-er (prə-dō'sər, -dyōs', prə-) n. 1. One that produces, esp. one that manufactures or grows goods or services to sell. 2. One who finances and supervises the production of public entertainment, as a play. 3. A furnace for manufacturing producer gas. 4. *Ecol.* An autotrophic organism in an ecosystem.

producer gas n. A gas used as fuel, generated by passing air with steam over burning coke or coal to yield a combustible mixture of nitrogen, carbon monoxide, and hydrogen.

producer goods or **producers' goods** pl. n. Goods, as raw materials or tools, for making consumer goods.

prod-uct (prɒd'ʌkt) n. [Lat. *productum* < p. part. of *producere*, to bring forth. — see PRODUCE.] 1. Something produced by human or mechanical effort or by a natural process. 2. A direct result: CONSEQUENCE. 3. *Chem.* A substance produced by a chemical change. 4. *Math.* a. The result arrived at by performing multiplication. b. A scalar product. c. A vector product.

pro-duc-tion (prə-dūk'shan, prə-) n. 1. An act or process of producing. 2. Creation of value or wealth by producing goods and services. 3. **PRODUCT 1**. 4. The total number of products: OUTPUT. 5. A public performance, as of a play. — **pro-duc'tion-al** adj.

pro-duc-tive (prə-dūk'tiv, prə-) adj. 1. Producing or able to produce. 2. Producing abundantly: FERTILE. 3. Yielding useful or favorable results: CONSTRUCTIVE <productive marketing ideas> 4. Of or involved in the creation of goods and services to produce wealth or value. 5. Resulting in <investigations productive of discoveries> — **pro-duc'tive-ly** adv. — **pro'duc-tiv'i-ty** (prɒd'ūk-tiv'i-tē, prɒd'ʌk-), **pro-duc'tive-ness** n.

pro-em (prɒ'em') n. [ME *prohème* < OFr. < Lat. *proemium* < Gk.

ἀ πατ̄ ἄ παῖ ἀρ̄ καὶ ἄ πατ̄ ἔ πετ̄ ἔ βε ἡω̄ which ἰ πῖ
i tie ī pier ò pot ò toe ò paw, for oi noise oō took